

37 1961

ALABAMA

Birmingham
**Mrs. Washington Leaves Her
Estate To Metropolitan Church**

Mrs. Isabelle Washington, 81-year old domestic worker, left her estate, amounting to a total of \$6,000, to the Metropolitan A. M. E. Zion Church, 4th Ave. and 16th St., No., according to an announcement. She died Feb. 11.

The Rev. McMurray said that Mrs. Washington did not have any relatives. She was a member of Metropolitan.

The announcement added: "According to her (Mrs. Washington's) lawyer, Oscar W. Adams, Jr., the

estate totaled \$4,000 in cash and a \$2,000 loan to the church due by promissory note which was to be a gift by the time of her death."

"Mrs. Washington was a faithful church member and church worker for 51 years. She served in the Sunday School, Missionary Society and Auxiliary Board."

"She will be long remembered by her pastor and many friends."



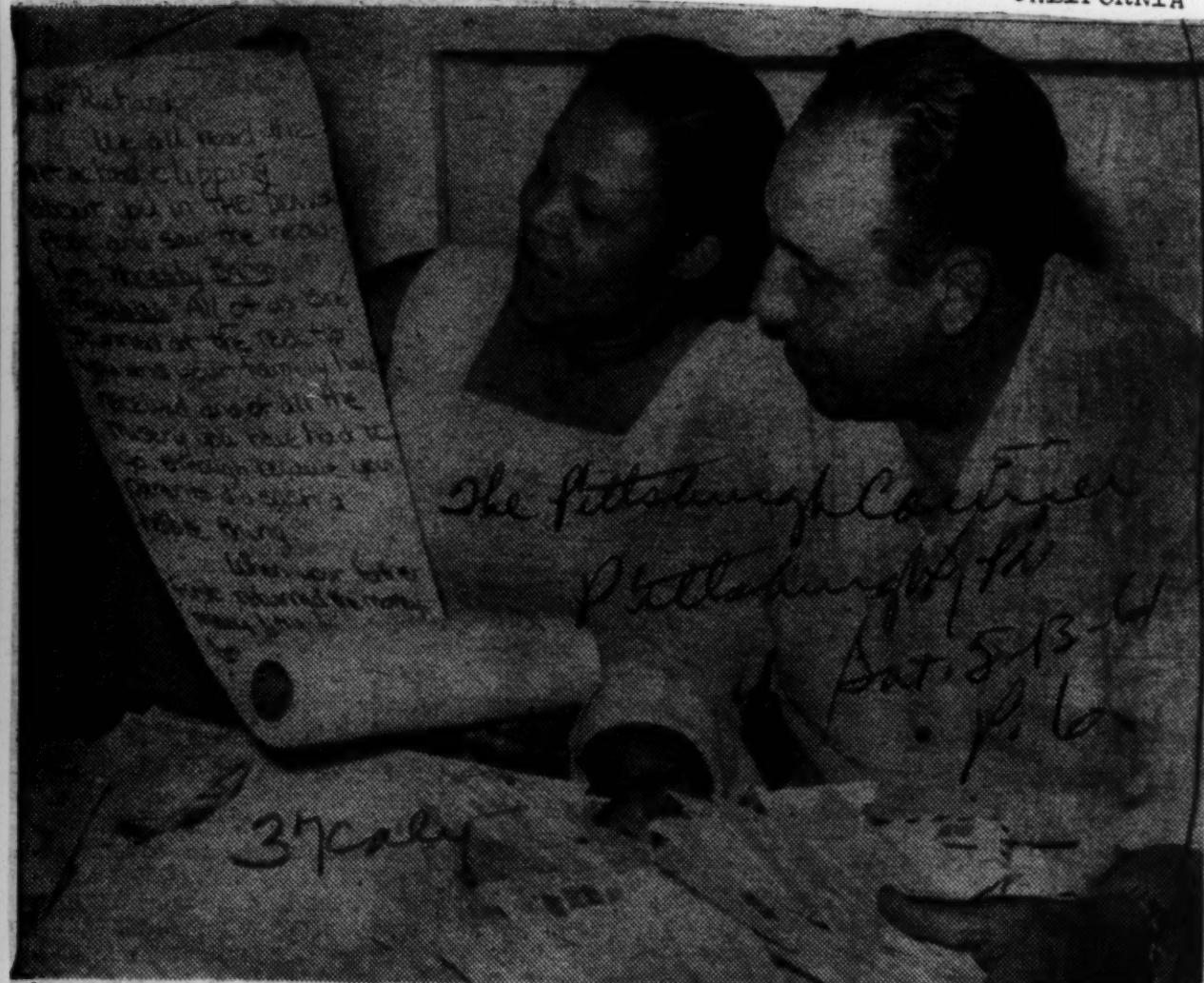
REV. G. W. McMURRAY
(Pastor)



MRS. ISABELLE WASHINGTON
(Estate Donor)

37 1961

CALIFORNIA



PRAISE FOR A CHANGE — Douglas Johnson and his wife, Helen, beam over a pile of letters endorsing his honesty for returning \$240,000 he found on a Los Angeles street.

Mrs. Johnson holds a letter from their son and signed by hundreds of students of the Boulder (Col.) High School. The boy had reported teasing from students for having a "dumb" father.

37 1961

Will Estimated At \$500,000

CALIFORNIA

Bulk of Lomax \$\$ To Grandchildren

Pittsburgh Courier (Courier News Service)

LOS ANGELES—In the last will and testament of the man who built a fortune of a half-million dollars through his business sagacity and then ended his own life by pumping a bullet into his brain last week, his attorney found that he had left the bulk of his estate to six grandchildren.

Finally, Friday the body of Lucius W. Lomax, who reportedly was in his late seventies, was privately cremated.

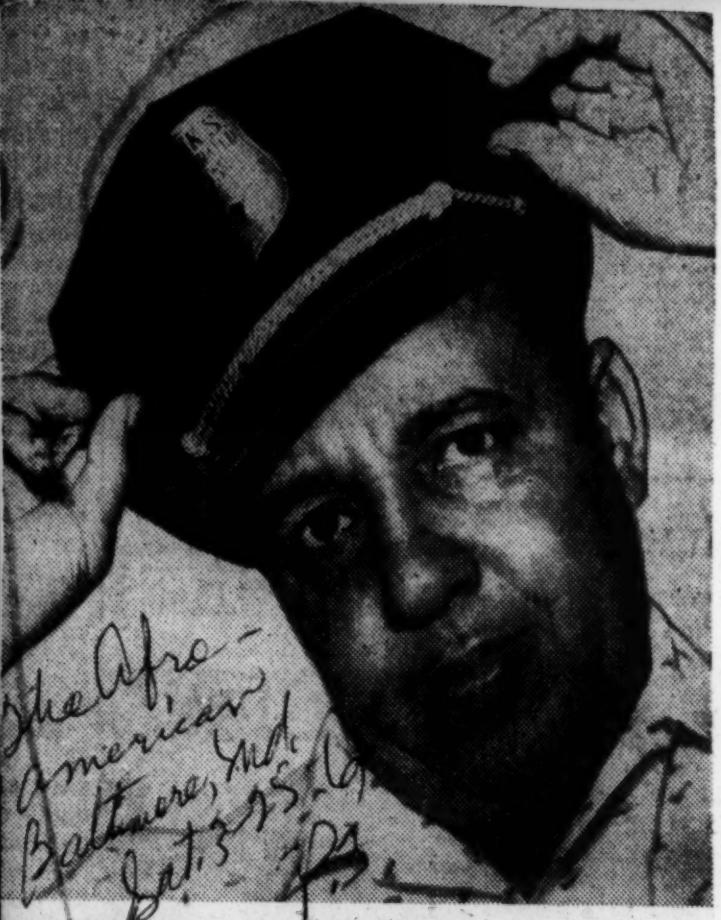
But Lomax, during his lifetime, had amassed a fortune, mostly in real estate and bonds, which left a rich legacy to his family.

8-17-61
WHEN HIS WILL was filed Monday, it was revealed that he had left two parcels of property to his son, Lucius Lomax Jr.; four pieces of property to his sister, Mrs. Marie Williams; two parcels to his secretary, Wilma Dungey; \$2,000 in cash to his "friend" and first wife Lucia Rickmond, formerly of Pittsburgh; \$1,000 to Mabel Davis of Oakland, Calif., and a parcel of property to Eva Scott of Houston, Tex., the latter two also named as "friends".

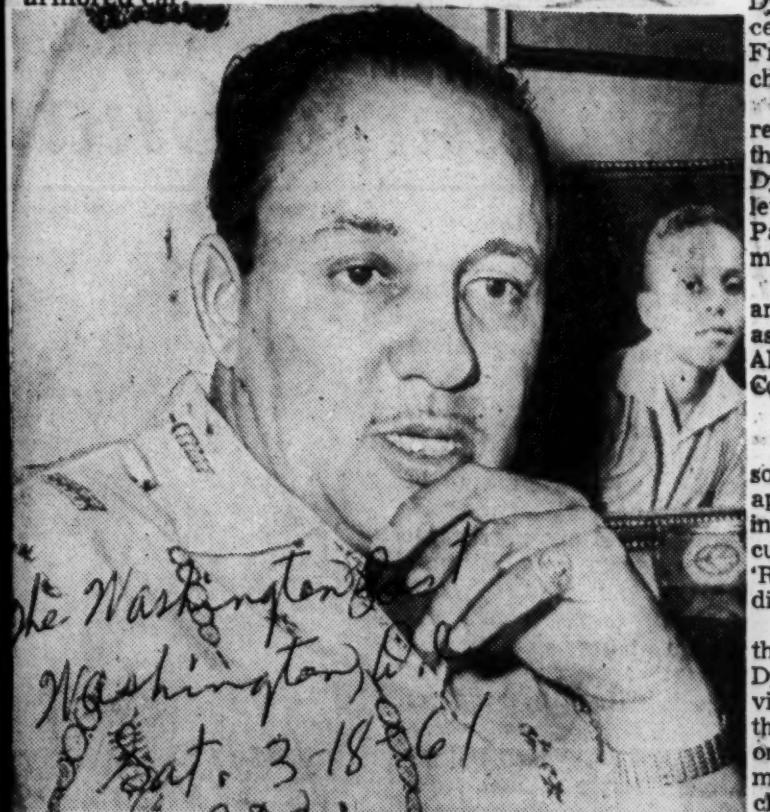
But the residue of his vast estate was willed to his six grandchildren, Lucius W. III, Michele, Michael, Melanie, Mia and Mark Lomax, the children of his son and his son's estranged wife, Almena Lomax, formerly editor of the Los Angeles Tribune.

CONSERVATIVE estimates of his estate were given as nearly \$500,000.

The will specified that the grandchildren could withdraw the principal of their legacies when they reached 30, but meanwhile the funds of the children would be administered by the United California Bank.



A PERFECT FIT — Douglas Johnson of Los Angeles tries on a Brink's cap for size; headgear for the uniform he'll wear as a Brink's guard. Officials gave him the job, plus a college scholarship for his oldest son, for returning a bag of money (\$240,000) which tumbled from a Brink's armored car.



Cash "Headache"

Douglas W. Johnson, 50, a Los Angeles handyman who found \$240,000 in cash on a street there last week, told newsmen yesterday that attention following the incident has made him a "nervous wreck." He explained: "I can't eat and I'm sick to my stomach." Johnson found the sack containing \$240,000 after it rolled out the door of a passing Brink's truck.

Johnson Resigns Job With Board

The Commercial Appeal
Quits In Face Of Directive

Ordering End Be Put
To Discrimination

Memphis, Tenn.

By Associated Press International

MONTGOMERY, Ala., March 21. — Macon County Registrar, but as a member of the Cosby Johnson resigned from current board was subject to the board Tuesday, apparently the order.

In the face of a stern Federal Court directive ordering the board to end discrimination against Negroes . . .

Mr. Johnson's resignation leaves the board with two members, former chairman Wheeler Dyson—a defendant in the recent civil rights suit—and Frank Smith, the current board chairman.

The registrar gave no official reason for his resignation from the post he accepted along with Dyson and Smith Jan. 30. His letter, received by Gov. John Patterson's office Tuesday, said merely:

"As of this date (March 20) I am submitting my resignation as a registrar of Macon County, Ala. Thanking you. Yours truly, Cosby Johnson."

Letter Is Sent

A letter accepting Mr. Johnson's resignation was sent for approval by the state appointing Board of Patterson, Agriculture Commissioner R. C. 'Red' Bamberger, and state Auditor Mary Texas Hurt Garner.

Mr. Johnson was named to the board shortly after Wheeler Dyson and Charles Scott, previous members, resigned from the controversial post which at one time was vacant for 17 months when six persons declined to serve because of "Federal harassment."

Mr. Dyson was persuaded by

Governor Patterson to rejoin the board, with new members Johnson and Chairman Frank Smith.

Friday's court ruling, by United States Middle District Judge Frank M. Johnson Jr., ordered the Macon County authorities to quit discriminating against prospective Negro voters; register had been denied voting rights; submit a monthly report on progress by the board and cut down the reading-writing test of the United States Constitution to 50 consecutive words.

Calls For Names

It also called on the Justice Department to submit the names of at least three prospective voter referees in the advent the Macon authorities failed to obey the order.

The judge said the evidence showed . . . "Overwhelmingly gage in crafts and trades under the effect that the State of its jurisdiction, represents Alabama, acting through its combination in restraint of agents, including the former member of the current board a conference here. "It is no different, no less ominous, than a combination in restraint of trade."

Cosby Johnson was not actually named in the civil rights served that the building trades unions are lobbying for their Under the present program, restrictions against picketing by construction unions.

Under the law, the unions can

not picket a construction site if picketing against one contractor also stops work by subcontractors not involved in the dispute. A bill legalizing such picketing had the support of President Kennedy when he was a Massachusetts senator last year, but it failed to pass. It is being revived in Powells committee now, with hearings set for Monday.

"As you press for the passage of this legislation," Powell told the union members, they should remember this principle: "Let every man have not only the right to picket on the site, but to work on the site."

Since finding the money two weeks ago life has been a hectic series of press conferences and telephone calls for Douglas William Johnson.

But Tuesday the Johnsons got a \$10,000 check from Brink's, Inc., the armored truck company that lost the \$240,000.

Powell Using Position To Push Union Mixing

By FRANK VAN DER LINDEN Supervisors Tuesday urged Gov.

Daily News Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON House Labor

Committee Chairman Adam abide by a Federal mandate to Clayton Powell has dropped a repeal a state law barring those gentle hint to the building trades whose mothers continue to bear illegitimate children.

The secretary of education, health and welfare has ordered a stop of Federal funds for that program by July 1, unless the state law relative to providing "suitable homes" is repealed or bypassed. It would stop benefits for 62,000 children now on the rolls, of which about 70 per cent are Negroes.

State Appeals Order

The state has appealed to Secretary Abraham Ribicoff to rescind the order issued by his predecessor, Arthur Fleming, but no action has been an-

ounced from Washington.

In its advocacy, the Monroe County supervisors pointed out that the state statute provides that mothers of more than one illegitimate child should be cut off from the rolls until that

failed to pass. It is being revived

in the satisfaction of welfare officials.

Governor Barnett is opposed to the Federal mandate which if followed will require legislative action to repeal a law enacted several years ago.

"The board feels that the position of Governor Barnett is absolutely correct, right and just, both legally and morally,

and we endorse the stand he has taken," said a resolution adopted by the supervisors and mailed to the Governor.

The board also endorsed Governor Barnett's recent request to prosecuting officials to prosecute parents who have deserted their children and left them as wards on the welfare rolls. An estimated 5,000 parents of 16,000 children are said to be involved.

"It is the opinion of the

board, that if necessary, that

the state provide for its own

welfare funds without the aid of

Federal supplements or appropria-

tions for dependent children

in order to carry out the state

law," the resolution stated.

State Opposes Practice

Supervisors signing the reso-

ving a party to the encouraging

of mothers to have more illegitimate children which is the ap-

parent intent of the secretary of

education, health and welfare, Greenwood Springs; James B.

Lockherham of Hamilton, and

George B. Lilley of Aberdeen.

State Aid Urged For Illegitimate

The Commercial Appeal

appeal

Monroe County Supervisors

Ask Barnett To Help

Dependent Children

Memphis, Tenn.

By KENNETH TOLER

From The Commercial Appeal

Jackson, Miss., Bureau

JACKSON, Miss., March 21

The Monroe County Board of

D.C. colored home ownership is 15%

The Negro Homeless
Baltimore Md.

WASHINGTON

Colored ownership of homes in Washington, D.C. is now 15 per cent of the total number of homes owned in the nation's capital, according to figures recently released by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

44,555 homes are owned by colored people in D.C. as against 244,543 homes owned by whites.

This represents a greater gain in ten years for colored home owners in D.C. than for whites. In 1950, there were only 24,895 colored home owners compared to 172,718 white home owners, or 13 per cent of the total.

Baltimore colored home ownership likewise showed an increase, but is still below the total for Washington.

There are 32,895 colored home owners in Baltimore out of a total of 308,720 homeowners, or 10 per cent.

D.C. Finder Loses Court Case

Slave's Heirs Awarded 'Pot of Gold' Discovered Amid Southwest Rubble

By Stephen S. Rosenfeld
Staff Reporter

Feb. 25 61
A buried "pot of gold" was awarded yesterday to heirs of an illiterate former slave whose distrust of banks led him to hide his considerable business profits in "crocks, old syrup cans and large paper bags" at his Southwest Washington home.

The 934 silver coins worth \$403 at face value and all at least 78 years old, were found by chance in a crock in the rubble of the Southwest redevelopment area last spring by Leon Kanegis of 2505 Woodley rd nw. while he was "exploring" there.

The demolition company which razed the area challenged Kanegis' right to the coins in Municipal Court but he won on the basis of the treasure trove doctrine—finders keepers. Kanegis then was challenged in that court by the heirs of John Johnson. Yesterday Chief Judge John Lewis Smith awarded them the trove.

The judge found that Johnson was a former slave of Maryland Gov. George Bowie. Later he served in the Civil War and then began peddling vegetables from a wheelbarrow in Washington.

"Thereafter," Judge Smith wrote, "Johnson purchased a horse and wagon and soon developed a thriving huckstering business. He died on Nov. 4, 1925, at age 88, unable to read or write, but with more than \$7300 in bank deposits and owning 10 houses in Southwest Washington."

Johnson's daughter Blanche, of 501 Allison st. nw., testified that her father distrusted banks because he had once lost money in one. She and a granddaughter, Corrine Spriggs of 837 20th st. ne., said they frequently saw Johnson counting the day's receipts in

the stable—and hiding them.

This testimony, said Judge Smith, negated any "presumption of abandonment"—thus killing Kanegis' claim—and established Johnson's ownership—thus supporting the heirs' claim.

He left it to Probate Court to split the trove among the heirs. Besides Blanche Johnson and Mrs. Spriggs, they are Beatrice Johnson, a granddaughter who lives in Southeast Washington, and Christine Johnson, a daughter-in-law, of 1917 D st. ne.

37 1961

FLORIDA

2 Fight For *Chicago Defender* \$42,725 *Chicago Defender* Fla. Estate

L(173)-9
TAMPA, Fla. — (ANP, —

Two women, both of whom claim to be widows of the Rev. E. K. S. McDuffie, are engaged in fight over the minister's \$42,725 estate.

According to legal documents filed for probate, Rev. McDuffie named his wife, Catherine, 45, as sole executrix of his estate.

But, Mrs. Mary McDuffie of High Springs, Fla., has claimed in a petition filed with the county judge that she is the legal widow of Rev. McDuffie. Petitioning through her attorneys, D. M. Martin and H. D. Wentworth, she has asked for a dowry's share (one-third) of the estate. The petition was filed May 27, 1960.

Rev. McDuffie, who was pastor of Morning Star Baptist church for more than 20 years, was pastor of Northside Baptist church which he founded at the time of his death.

Census Report Shows Value Of Ownership

The latest evidence that home ownership promotes higher quality in the nation's housing was supplied last week by a Bureau of the Census report.

While the overall quality of housing improved during the last decade, the greatest advances were made in homes occupied by the owners, the report said.

As in the past, run-down housing was more prevalent among renters.

About 90 per cent of owner-occupied homes (compared to 70 per cent in 1950) were classified as non-dilapidated, and containing all plumbing facilities.

There were 29 million adequate, owner-occupied shelter units in 1960, an increase of 78 per cent from 1950. The agency cited the high quality of new housing as a major factor in this improvement.

More than half the units that were dilapidated, or lacked private toilet, bath, or hot water were occupied by renters, who represent 38 per cent of all households.

About one out of every four renters, compared to one of every nine owners, occupied houses classified as dilapidated or deficient.

The South had about half of this type of housing. The West, which has had a building boom the past 10 years, had only 8 per cent deficient housing. The North Central region had 27 per cent, and the Northeast 15 per cent.

All regions, however, reported a significantly smaller number of dilapidated units than in 1950.

Occupied housing units containing all plumbing facilities, excluding dilapidated structures

and units not fully equipped with plumbing, increased from 27.7 to 44.2 million in the last 10 years.

PERSONAL INCOME SET RECORD IN '60

The New York Times,
401.6 Billion Is 5% Gain

—Dakotas Led Rise

P-35c 37

WASHINGTON, April 23 (AP)—Personal incomes rose to records in every state last year despite the business slump in the last half.

Reporting this today, the Commerce Department said the national total had increased 5 per cent to \$401,600,000,000. The 1959 figure was \$380,700,000,000.

Last year's total amounted to \$2,242 for every man, woman and child, against the 1959 average of \$2,159.

The Dakotas showed the biggest percentage gain in total income. South Dakota's figure was up 28 per cent from \$1,000,000,000 to \$1,300,000,000. North Dakota registered a 19 per cent gain from \$972,000,000 to \$1,158,000,000.

Smallest Gainer is Iowa

Other big gainers included Alaska, up 12 per cent from \$556,000,000 to \$621,000,000; Arizona, 9 per cent from \$2,400,000,000 to \$2,600,000,000, and Hawaii, 9 per cent from \$1,300,000,000 to \$1,400,000,000.

The smallest gain, 1 per cent, was in Iowa where income increased from \$5,398,000,000 to \$5,472,000,000.

Average personal income were highest in Delaware, with \$3,094, followed by the District of Columbia with \$3,000. Connecticut ranked next with \$2,871, then Nevada with \$2,854.

Mississippi had the lowest figure, \$1,190. Next came Arkansas, \$1,369.

In New England as a whole, personal incomes rose at a higher rate than the average for all states combined.

6% Rise for Mideast

The aggregate in the Mideast, the nation's largest and most concentrated market area, totaled more than \$100,000,000,000, up 6 per cent. The \$5,500,000,000 gain recorded for this region exceeded that of any other.

New York accounted for a \$3,000,000,000 increase and Pennsylvania \$1,000,000,000.

GENERAL

The Great Lakes states, with personal income totaling \$87,000,000,000, experienced a rise of 5 per cent.

Incomes moved up nearly \$3,000,000,000 in the Southeast, a rate a little below the national average.

The Southwest had an expansion of 4 per cent. Largely because of the unfavorable experience of agriculture and mining, the two mainstays of its economy, the area showed the smallest relative increase.

In the five Rocky Mountain states, declines in farm income, except in Colorado, proved a strong influence on the region's over-all income expansion. Non-farm income showed considerable buoyancy, and partly counter-balanced a cut in farm income.

The Far West scored the largest income increase in the nation. This stemmed from better-than-average gains in nearly every major industry.

Home Ownership At New High, Bureau Says

*Chicago Defender Chicago Ill P. 6
5 (13-19) 6/*

By EDWARD COWAN

WASHINGTON — (UPI)

Census bureau figures suggest that home ownership in the United States is more widespread now than at any time since colonial days.

Some 32.8 million American families live in houses they own (not counting the mortgage), according to results of the 1960 census.

This is the greatest number of home owners on record. It is also the highest ratio of home-owning families — 61.9 per cent — recorded.

The bureau's figures on housing go back to 1890, when 47.8 per cent of all families were home owners. It is probable that the proportion has not surpassed last year's 61.9 per cent since colonial days when even New York was a small town (by today's standards) and most Americans were farmers or shopkeepers.

Aided by general prosperity and government mortgage underwriting, more than 9.2 million families bought homes in the 1950's, the bureau found. This surge capped two decades of remarkable rise in home ownership.

From 1890 to 1940, the proportion of families living in their own homes held fairly steady, fluctuating only between 43.6 per cent (in 1940) to 47.8 per cent (in 1890 and 1930). From 1940 to 1950, the ratio rose to 55 per cent and in 1960 it stood at 61.9 per cent.

NEGRO GAINS

Nonwhites, mainly Negroes, made sizeable gains in home ownership in the 1950's. But they continued to have a much lower rate of home ownership than whites — a reflection of the lower average income among Negroes and the fact that in virtually all parts of the country there are neighborhoods in which a Negro cannot

buy a house.

The bureau released these figures: In 1960 64.4 per cent of white families, or 30.8 million, owned homes compared to 38.3 per cent of nonwhite families, or just under two million.

Compared to 1950, nonwhite home ownership jumped by 46.2 per cent as against a rise of 38.4 per cent for whites.

The bureau said in its report that "regionally, the most rapid relative gain in nonwhite home ownership was in the northeast." There, one out of four nonwhite families owned a house (or, in a few cases an apartment), compared to one out of five in 1950. That is a regional gain of about 25 per cent in the rate of home ownership for nonwhites.

The more rapid rise in the northeast appears related to the fact that home ownership by whites was least there in comparison to other regions. In 1960, some 235,000 nonwhite families in the northeast owned homes, as against 253,000 in the west, 340,000 in the north central region and 1,146,000 in the south. The regions were ranked the same way in 1940.

Similarly, the northeast had the lowest ratio of nonwhite ownership, 21.6 per cent. In the north central states 33.9 per cent of nonwhite families owned homes, 37.2 per cent in the south and 40.2 per cent in the west.

Table on Personal Income

Mon. + 24-61 New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON, April 23 (AP)—Following is a table showing the total personal income for each state (in millions of dollars) in 1959 and 1960 and the per-person income for both years: *The New York Times*

| State | Total Income | | Per Person | |
|---------------------|--------------|----------|------------|---------|
| | 1959 | 1960 | 1959 | 1960 |
| Alabama | \$ 4,607 | \$ 4,836 | \$1,422 | \$1,478 |
| Alaska | 556 | 621 | 2,527 | 2,724 |
| Arizona | 2,388 | 2,613 | 1,904 | 1,983 |
| Arkansas | 2,370 | 2,447 | 1,332 | 1,369 |
| California | 40,783 | 43,637 | 2,660 | 2,753 |
| Colorado | 3,737 | 4,046 | 2,164 | 2,301 |
| Connecticut | 6,904 | 7,315 | 2,767 | 2,871 |
| Delaware | 1,314 | 1,389 | 2,993 | 3,094 |
| Dist. of Columbia | 2,210 | 2,287 | 2,881 | 3,000 |
| Florida | 9,273 | 9,744 | 1,936 | 1,949 |
| Georgia | 6,081 | 6,407 | 1,558 | 1,622 |
| Hawaii | 1,290 | 1,407 | 2,081 | 2,192 |
| Idaho | 1,187 | 1,224 | 1,804 | 1,824 |
| Illinois | 25,734 | 26,807 | 2,580 | 2,651 |
| Indiana | 9,712 | 10,278 | 2,104 | 2,198 |
| Iowa | 5,398 | 5,472 | 1,966 | 1,982 |
| Kansas | 4,238 | 4,499 | 1,960 | 2,066 |
| Kentucky | 4,548 | 4,738 | 1,509 | 1,555 |
| Louisiana | 5,169 | 5,329 | 1,612 | 1,630 |
| Maine | 1,713 | 1,845 | 1,788 | 1,894 |
| Maryland | 7,108 | 7,526 | 2,330 | 2,415 |
| Massachusetts ... | 12,380 | 13,167 | 2,436 | 2,548 |
| Michigan | 17,493 | 18,485 | 2,256 | 2,355 |
| Minnesota | 6,660 | 7,104 | 1,972 | 2,074 |
| Mississippi | 2,528 | 2,595 | 1,169 | 1,190 |
| Missouri | 9,248 | 9,590 | 2,158 | 2,214 |
| Montana | 1,318 | 1,353 | 1,976 | 1,996 |
| Nebraska | 2,797 | 2,988 | 1,995 | 2,113 |
| Nevada | 753 | 822 | 2,695 | 2,854 |
| New Hampshire.. | 1,200 | 1,284 | 1,993 | 2,108 |
| New Jersey..... | 15,429 | 16,387 | 2,589 | 2,687 |
| New Mexico | 1,681 | 1,714 | 1,811 | 1,789 |
| New York..... | 45,103 | 48,000 | 2,714 | 2,853 |
| North Carolina... | 6,771 | 7,229 | 1,504 | 1,584 |
| North Dakota.... | 972 | 1,158 | 1,550 | 1,826 |
| Ohio | 21,979 | 23,057 | 2,287 | 2,367 |
| Oklahoma | 4,138 | 4,336 | 1,798 | 1,859 |
| Oregon | 3,842 | 4,036 | 2,188 | 2,276 |
| Pennsylvania | 24,732 | 25,884 | 2,201 | 2,282 |
| Rhode Island.... | 1,837 | 1,900 | 2,151 | 2,217 |
| South Carolina... | 3,148 | 3,356 | 1,329 | 1,403 |
| South Dakota.... | 1,020 | 1,309 | 1,502 | 1,919 |
| Tennessee | 5,362 | 5,591 | 1,512 | 1,565 |
| Texas | 18,041 | 18,683 | 1,908 | 1,943 |
| Utah | 1,626 | 1,735 | 1,854 | 1,936 |
| Vermont | 694 | 740 | 1,798 | 1,893 |
| Virginia | 7,058 | 7,430 | 1,796 | 1,868 |
| Washington | 6,363 | 6,674 | 2,254 | 2,334 |
| West Virginia | 3,053 | 3,142 | 1,631 | 1,692 |
| Wisconsin | 8,258 | 8,628 | 2,109 | 2,177 |
| Wyoming | 707 | 751 | 2,175 | 2,262 |

37 1961

ILLINOIS

FORTUNE GONE, contested the will, but his
~~EX-SHOE SHINE~~
suit was dismissed.

BOY DECLARES

Future
Faces Contempt in

Estate Case

Chicago, Ill.

A onetime shoe shine boy who inherited a fortune from a customer was sent to county jail yesterday because he says there is only \$144.12 of the legacy left. He later was released in \$10,000 bond.

Young failed to pay it and only \$144.12 remained in the estate accounts. The court removed Young as executor.

Atty. Joseph Uhlir, representing Mrs. Stary, who has

received nothing, asked yes-

terday that Young be pun-

ished for contempt.

James Cooney, acting Probate court judge, sentenced Lawrence Young, 4543

Greenwood av., who says he is now a building contractor, to jail for contempt when Young was unable to account for \$129,500 in estate funds. Bond of \$10,000 was set.

Named Executor

Young was beneficiary of the estate of Joseph Stary, furrier of 1217 E. 47th st., who died in 1957 at age 75. The estate was estimated at between \$140,000 and \$129,500 in estate funds. The bond of \$10,000 was set, pending an appeal.

Stary's widow, Josephine, 63, a patient in Manteno state hospital, was awarded one-third of the estate under Illi-



Lawrence Young

inois law. A son of Stary's, Joseph, 36, of Los Angeles,

37 1961

MARYLAND

George McMechen \$72,570 Murphy estate left \$50,000 estate distributed to 6 heirs

Baltimore, Md.

BALTIMORE

With the exception of \$4,700 in bequests to other relatives and friends, the \$50,000 estate of George W. F. McMechen left no fee-simple property, but left personal property, including debts due him, of approximately \$50,000.

The papers state that he will be shared equally by his four daughters.

The daughters are Mes-

dames Mildred L. Allen of Tuskegee, Ala., Georgeanna Chester, Catherine L. Wilson and Edythe M. Blake of this city.

Mrs. Blake, under Mr. McMechen's will, becomes executrix of his estate.

MR. McMECHEN, who practiced law in this city from 1904 until the time of his retirement in 1955, died on February 22, at the age of 89.

His will, drawn on Nov. 17, 1959, gave one of the largest outside bequests to a son-in-law, Bernard E. Blake, who will receive \$1500.

The other bequest of size will go to his sister, Miss Mary L. McMechen of Wheeling, W. Va., to whom Mr. McMechen willed all of his property, of every kind, located in Wheeling, plus \$500 in cash.

OTHER BEQUESTS included the following to:

Mrs. Ethel Jones of Wheeling, W. Va., sister, \$500;

Mrs. Virginia Richardson, Wheeling, niece, \$100;

Mrs. Roberta Hawkins West of Jamaica, L.I., N.Y., \$300;

Mrs. Mildred Alexander of Charlotte, N.C., \$300;

Edward N. Wilson, Baltimore, \$100;

Also to Paula Chester, Baltimore, granddaughter, \$500;

Peggy Wilson, Baltimore, granddaughter, \$500;

And, to Mrs. Goree Gross of Seattle, Wash., sister, \$400.

ACCORDING to the ad-

ministration papers filed by

The bulk of the \$72,570 estate of Mrs. Grace Hughes Murphy has been divided in equal shares among her children, an administrators' account filed in Orphans Court shows.

The account was filed by her sons, Howard H. Murphy and William H. Murphy for the benefit of the children.

Bequests made by Mrs. Murphy to other than her children included the following:

To William E. Bowman, \$600; Mrs. Cleota Kelly, \$200; both family friends; Mrs. Catherine Murphy, wife of Howard Murphy, \$1000; all less inheritance taxes;

To Provident Hospital for the George B. Murphy Fund, \$1000; and to St. Katerine's Episcopal Church, \$100.

Administration costs amounted to \$7,176.

The largest item of the AFRO-AMERICAN stock, value listed as \$46,200.

Other items included property at 808 Woodyear Avenue, which netted each child \$240; a mortgage on 1741 Druid Hill Avenue which brought to each \$1,089.51, and cash to each, \$1,898.60.

Exceptions to the above included George B. Murphy, Jr., who owed the estate \$1,101.39; and the difference in amount due and that paid for property at 1126 N. Carrollton Avenue owned by Mrs. Murphy, and purchased from executors by Mr. and Mrs. James H. Murphy.

OTHER ITEMS sold included ground rent on 2317 Ivy Avenue to Mr. and Mrs. Calvin T. Roach, ground rent on 2327 Madison Avenue, sold to Advance Savings and Loan Association,

property at 3115 Mosher survived by a father, Dr. W. B. DeBois of Brooklyn, N.Y. and a grandson, Arthur McFarlane of New York City.

The AFRO-AMERICAN stock was placed in a trust to be administered by Howard H. and William H.

Murphy for the benefit of the children.

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To William E. Bowman, \$600; Mrs. Cleota Kelly, \$200; both family friends; Mrs. Catherine Murphy, wife of Howard Murphy, \$1000; all less inheritance taxes;

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Administration costs amounted to \$7,176.

Teacher left
estate to
her daughter

BALTIMORE
Mrs. Yolande DeBois Williams, former city school teacher, left her entire estate to her daughter, Mrs. Yolande McFarlane of New York City.

The bequest went to Mrs. McFarlane through a will left by the mother.

An inventory filed in Orphans Court shows the estate to be worth \$10,107. It consists of an automobile valued at \$50, a home at 2201 Southern Ave., \$9,000; furnishings in the home, \$645; silver, \$317; and jewelry, \$95.

Mrs. Williams was also

Grace's widow *Afro Emerson* gets \$200,000

A New Bedford, Mass., woman and her daughter will receive \$200,000 each under the will of the late Charles Emmanuel (Sweet Daddy) Grace, who was founder and bishop of the House of Prayer for All People, Inc.

The payment was agreed to in a settlement of suits by Mrs. Jane L. Grace, who said she was the widow of Daddy Grace, and Mrs. Irene Noreiga, who identified herself as his daughter.

The contested will left by Daddy Grace showed in 1960 that he had left all but \$62,500 of the estimated \$25 million estate to the church.

Mrs. Noreiga was left \$500 in that will while Mrs. Grace was not mentioned. The \$62,500 was bequeathed to relatives.

WHEN INTERVIEWED by the AFRO last year, Mrs. Grace said the late bishop deserted her and their three children three years after their marriage in 1909.

At that time she outlined her reasons for retaining a lawyer to protect her interest and her daughter's in the estate of the House of Prayer. She had retained Roy Teixeira, Boston attorney, who announced that he would petition the Bristol County probation court for papers of administration after funeral services for Daddy Grace were held.

ALSO AT THAT time she said she knew nothing about divorce proceedings to dissolve the marriage early in the century when Daddy Grace "had nothing."

The bishop had admitted pre-trial papers in a Washington court record in 1956 that he had married a Jennie Grace.

In a later suit filed by the widow's attorney, it was charged she never received any notice of a divorce hearing and was never served papers by a deputy sheriff.

Earlier this year the Federal Government which had charged the Grace estate was \$6 million in arrears for taxes, made a \$1,940,000 settlement.



MRS. JANE L. GRACE

37 1961

MISSISSIPPI

Negro Landowners
Named By Board

Open P.D.
Writ Would Seek Halt To
Reservoir Case
Memphis News

BRANDON, Miss., Sept. 4. —
(UPI)—The Pearl River Reservoir committee will file eminent domain proceedings Tuesday against a group of Negroes who own about 30 acres of land along the reservoir in Rankin County.

The action will be filed with Justice of the Peace Walter Ratcliff.

Dan Lee, an attorney for several property owners along the reservoir, said he would seek a writ of prohibition from Circuit Judge O. H. Barnett of Carthage to halt the proceedings. Lee said he has learned the committee plans to sell the land and a shopping center will be constructed on the land now owned by the Negroes.

By law, eminent domain proceedings can be carried out only when the land is to be put to public use.

Lee said he has been joined by former Gov. J. P. Coleman in representing the landowners.

He said the eminent domain proceedings against the Negroes were only a starting point, and proceedings will be filed later against other persons owning land bordering the reservoir.

Coachman left estate *In Africa America, Baltimore, Md.* \$256,054

Dat. 4-29-61
ST. LOUIS, Mo. — The blood relatives of the late Preston Myree are contesting the will in which he left a quarter million dollars to his executor, his lawyer and his church and left them \$500 each. The relatives say he was of unsound mind when the will was drawn.

The estate of Mr. Myree, who died last November at 88 years of age, was probated last week at a value of \$256,054 in shoe company stock, real estate, bank accounts and insurance.

Mr. Myree had been employed since 1898 by George W. Brown, founder of the Brown Shoe Co. When Mr. Brown died in 1921, he left Mr. Myree 10 shares of company stock.

The stock was then worth \$44 a share but has increased in value since. Mr. Myree also received gifts from Mrs. Brown when she died in 1934.

* * *

THE BACHELOR financier so managed his finances that at the time of his death, he had Brown Shoe Co. stock worth more than \$58,000; 17 pieces of real estate worth \$103,000; bank accounts and insurance worth \$82,361.

Principal beneficiaries are Harry M. Allmon, his executor and Ellis Outlaw, his attorney. Mr. Allmon gets the stock and some real estate to be held in trust for his (Allmon's) children; Mr. Outlaw gets other real estate in payment for his legal services.

The other beneficiary, Central Baptist Church at Ewing

Ave. and Washington Blvd., gets a tithe—10 per cent of the estate.

WITH THESE bequests satisfied, the remainder of the estate is to go to 12 nieces and nephews or their heirs if they are deceased.

Baltimore, Md.
When Mr. Myree started working for the Browns in 1898, he was family coachman who tended four horses and drove the family to church every Sunday. He also drove Mr. Brown to the factory.

When automobiles replaced horses, he became family chauffeur.

39 Nov 1961
At Mr. Brown's death, Mr. Myree recalled that he was the senior employee of the family because "I liked Mr. Brown and he liked me, so I just stayed. I believe when you have a good place you ought to stay with it."

P. 2

37 1961

NEW JERSEY

Million Dollar Fortune To 64-Year-Old Maid

KANSAS CITY, Mo.

GARDEN CITY, N. J. — (AP)—
A chewing gum heiress who died last June left an estimated million-dollar fortune, including a mansion in this all-white suburb, to her Negro maid, it was disclosed this week.

The inheritance by Miss Ravella Hughes, 64, was revealed during investigation of an apparent accidental shooting. Police learned that Miss Hughes, one of two victims in the mishap, has been owner of a Tudor mansion in this virtually all-white suburb since the death of Evelyn Adams, of the Adams gum family.

The shooting, which police said occurred during examination of a souvenir gun, sent Miss Hughes to a hospital with a wound in the groin. She was reported in satisfactory condition.

Norman Woodward, 47, operator of a fleet of taxicabs and friend of Miss Hughes, suffered a slight wound in a finger from the same bullet which struck Miss Hughes.

Only Saturday police had investigated the death of Miss Hughes' maid, Matilda Shaw, 45, and said she apparently died unexpectedly of natural causes.

During the two investigations, police said they discovered that the "Adams house" had become the property of Miss Hughes.

Police said Miss Hughes told them she had recently sold the property for \$75,000 and Woodward was helping her to pack when they found the gun and it went off accidentally.

They quoted her as saying the house was too big and "I was just too lonesome here."

Miss Hughes had been maid and companion for some 30 years to Miss Adams, who some years ago inherited millions from her mother. The fortune was made in Chiclet gum.

Police said Miss Adams left all her estate to Miss Hughes, including the mansion and the former maid had continued to live there since her mistress' death.

Accident Bares Ravella Hughes' Million

Huge Fortune Mystery

The Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK — How Revella Hughes was able to keep quiet her inheritance of a million-dollar estate last summer, is still a mystery.

37
3-4-61
A series of accidents brought to light the fact that chewing gum heiress, Evelyn Adams had willed her house and securities estimated at between \$300,000 and \$1,000,000. The inheritance was revealed after Miss Hughes was accidentally shot in the groin, with a war souvenir gun, while she and a friend were going through the belongings in the Tudor-style Garden City, L. I. home, where she had lived for six years as companion to Miss Adams.

Well-known in New York as a concert artist, who performed on the piano, violin and organ, Miss Hughes met Miss Adams through their "mutual love of music."

They were introduced six or seven years ago by Gypsy Markoff, the accordionist, who is a friend of mine.

MISS HUGHES said she moved in with Miss Adams about a year later, and the two became constant companions, making several trips to Europe together. Miss Hughes described Miss Adams as a "dreadfully lonely woman." She had been divorced, when she was in her twenties and that was 30 years ago.

She had one brother living in France, and a lot of fair weather friends, who always deserted her during her periods of illness from liver trouble.

Police said the shooting occurred during examination of the gun. Norman Woodward, 47, operator of a fleet of taxicabs and a friend of Miss Hughes, suffered a slight wound in a finger, from the same bullet that struck Miss Hughes. She was released from Nassau Hospital, over the weekend.

As for the future, Miss Hughes plans on devoting her time and part of her fortune to dog charities. Both she and Miss Adams were dog lovers.



RAVELLA HUGHES
... will help dogs

Known as the Afro- musician American in the 20's

Baltimore, Md.
By AL WHITE

GARDEN CITY, N.Y. — Those New York newspapers called and said I was a maid. I have never been a maid.

37
So Miss Revella Hughes, 64-year old millionaire heiress, spiked false a story given wire services and the nation's daily press.

Actually Miss Hughes was a close companion and good friend to Miss Evelyn Vane Adams, daughter and heir of George Adams, chewing gum magnate and one of the founders of the American Chick Co.

NEW YORK

IN CASE YOU don't know, Miss Hughes was a top-flight concert artist in the 20's — the days when colored singers traveled a real rugged road, and in struggling to achieve success in her chosen career, she suffered all the trials and tribulations in the book.

Today, for her, Lady Luck has broken out in a real, loud laugh and Revella is rich, sure enough rich.

And the tabloids which had scented a juicy interracial scandal are disappointed. Now, after the real story has been unfolded, they are trying to sneer off Revella's good fortune.

But you just can't sneer away a million bucks — give or take a few — plus a magnificent mansion in an exclusive Long Island neighborhood.

HERE'S THE story.

Monday, the tabloid vultures swooped down on the mansion following a police report that a maid had been shot Sunday in the home of a wealthy Long Island heiress. True, a woman had been shot.

She wasn't the maid. She was the mistress of the mansion and had been its owner since last June.

Several years ago, Miss Hughes was in Europe. Through Gypsy Markoff, a well known accordionist, she was introduced to another American, interested in music and the arts, Miss Evelyn Vane Adams.

Miss Adams was so impressed with Revella, she persuaded her to give up her in cash and ninetenths of the This, Miss Hughes is anxious to come out to Long Island to live in the Adams mansion. And for seven years, Christian Science Church of \$60,000, saying it was too Adams home, a real showplace. her home too. The address, real swank, 107 John Street, Garden City.

Pittsburgh, Pa.
IN 1958, MISS Adams made



MISS REVELLA HUGHES

I was a close friend and companion
a will in which she left "to and over \$25,000 in real es-
my friend and faithful com-tate. This latter apparently
panion, Revella Hughes, my refers to the Tudor-type dwel-
residence and all other per-ling in which Miss Adams
sonal property, plus \$10,000 lived.

This, Miss Hughes is anxi-
to dispose of and only re-
maining one tenth went to the cently offered it for sale at
mansion. And for seven years, Christian Science Church of \$60,000, saying it was too
house for her alone.

A recent appraisal of the **HER ANXIETY** to dispose
estate listed \$450,000 in securi-
ties as the chief asset. There furnishings lead to the un-
was also \$16,000 in cash, \$2,- covering of the story.
000 in miscellaneous assets Last Sunday, Miss Hughes

called in an old friend and former employee of Miss Adams, Norman Woodward, a colored chauffeur who now owns a fleet of taxis in Garden City.

Miss Hughes said she knew there were a number of rifles and fire arms in the attic and knowing little about these things she called Woodward in to examine them and take them away.

While examining a foreign make revolver, it went off accidentally, wounding Miss Hughes in the groin.

From her bed in Nassau Hospital, Mineola, Long Island, Miss Hughes told the story to white reporters. None had ever heard of her.

She gave them a sketchy review of her life — saying she was born in Huntington, West Virginia 64 years ago. She graduated from Howard University with an A.B. degree, obtaining a master's degree in music from Northwestern University in Chicago.

SHE TOLD THEM she was the first of her race to sing in the first public concerts on Central Park Mall, being invited to sing by the then Mayor John Hylan.

Later she said she was musical director for "Shuffle Along" and "Running Wild." This was corroborated by Noble Sissle of "Shuffle Along" fame, who called on the phone while the reporters were talking with Miss Hughes.

Her career took her on concert tours to the colored colleges; she took part in experimental programs in the early days of TV for CBS and went abroad touring Europe in Air Force shows after World War II as a member of the units that entertained troops abroad. Miss Markoff was also with one of these units.

MISS HUGHES fondly recalled her association with "Sally Adams—" I was a companion-not a maid," she mused wryly when confronted with the original story that a "maid had been shot."

Reporters were amazed to discover that Miss Adams had died and her will legally probated in the Surrogate's Court in Mineola.

Asked about her plans for the future, Miss Hughes said she had none except she planned to donate part of the money to animal hospitals, especially those doing research for the aid of dogs.

Recently she lost a pet to which she was greatly attached and she felt that the most fitting memorial was to contribute funds for homeless and sick dogs.

THE TABLOIDS, which had ferreted out the story of an interracial relationship, which on the surface appeared to have the ingredients of a sordid nature, but the chagrin of the eager-beaver newshounds, there was nothing of the kind — everything was on the up and up, strictly legal and instead of an ignorant mammy, they ran into a charming, refined, educated colored woman, beneficiary of a lonesome white woman, who happened to be worth close to a million. End of story.

Bethany Allen **Ex-Negro Maid Found To Be Worth Million**

GARDEN CITY, N. Y., Feb. 20 (AP)—Investigation of an apparently accidental shooting here has disclosed that a Tudor mansion in this virtually all-white suburb has been owned by a one-time Negro maid since last June.

It also was disclosed that she has inherited an estimated million-dollar fortune—made in chiclet gum.

The shooting, which police said occurred during examination of a souvenir gun, sent Miss Ravella Hughes, 64-year-old Negro, to a hospital with a wound in the groin. She was reported in satisfactory condition.

Norman Woodward, 47, Negro operator of a fleet of taxicabs and friend of Miss Hughes, suffered a slight wound in a finger from the same bullet which struck Miss Hughes.

Only yesterday police had investigated the death of Miss Hughes' maid, Matilda Shaw, 45, also a Negro, and said she apparently collapsed and died unexpectedly of natural causes.

During the two investigations, police said, they discovered that the "Adams House" on John-st in this well-to-do Long Island community had become the property of Miss Hughes.

Except for one small corner of Garden City, homes are rarely sold to Negroes.

Police said Miss Hughes told them she had recently sold the property for \$75,000 and Woodward was helping her to pack when they found the gun and it went off accidentally.

They quoted her as saying the house was too big and "I was just too lonesome here."

Miss Hughes had been maid and companion for some 30 years to Evelyn Adams, of the Adams gum company, who some years ago inherited millions from her mother.

Police said Miss Adams left all her estate to Miss Hughes, including the John-st property, and the former maid had continued to live there since her mistress' death in June.

Bethany Allen **Negro Maid Inherits Fortune of \$1 Million**

GARDEN CITY, N. Y., Feb. 20 (AP)—A one-time Negro maid, who lives in a Tudor mansion in this virtually all-white suburb of New York City, has inherited a fortune of almost \$1 million.

Police investigation of an accidental shooting and a death from natural causes led to revelation yesterday that Miss Ravella Hughes, the 64-year-old former maid, had inherited the fortune and since last June had been owner of the mansion where she lives.

Miss Hughes, was shot in the groin, was reported in satisfactory condition in a hospital.

She was given the fortune and the mansion in the will of Miss Evelyn Adams, spinster daughter of the founder of the Adams chewing gum company. Miss Adams inherited the fortune from her mother several years ago.

Companion for 39 Years

Police said Miss Adams left all her estate to Miss Hughes, who had been her maid and companion for some 39 years.

Miss Hughes continued to live at the "Adams house" after her employer's death in June, but the new ownership of the mansion was not publicly known until yesterday.

One event leading to the disclosure came Saturday when Miss Matilda Shaw, 45-year-old Negro maid for Miss Hughes, died. Police said the maid collapsed in the house and died apparently of natural causes.

The other event was the wounding of Miss Hughes and of Norman Woodward, 47, Negro operator of a fleet of taxicabs and friend of Miss Hughes. He suffered a slight finger wound from the bullet that struck Miss Hughes.

Sold Mansion for \$75,000

Police said a World War I German automatic was discharged as Miss Hughes, who had sold the mansion for \$75,000 and was packing some of the furniture, went with Mr. Woodward to look over some items in the library.

Mr. Woodward reached for the souvenir pistol, and as he examined it the weapon went off. Police did not hold Mr. Woodward, who is a resident of nearby Hempstead, N. Y.

Police said Miss Hughes told them she had sold the house because it is too big and she was "just too lonesome" living there.

Bethany Allen **Lawyer Leaves 100G Estate**

NEW YORK — The late William H. Austin, a prominent lawyer who specialized in inheritance taxes—with his brother, Edmond O. Austin, for over 40 years, left his entire estate, valued at "over \$100,000," to his widow, Mrs. Bernia Lewis Austin, papers on file in Surrogate's Court revealed last week.

Mr. Austin, for many years before he died on Nov. 28, 1960, was one of the pioneer colored lawyers in New York City and a pillar in New York society.

37 1961

OHIO

**Mrs. M. L. Bryant
leaves \$191,590**

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Mrs. Maria Litchford Bryant, who died here Dec. 27, left an estate of \$191,590.

According to papers filed in Probate Court by A. J. Worsham, attorney, the estate included \$5,000 in personal property, \$175,790 in real property and an annual rental income of \$10,800.

A son, Neil Bryant, has been appointed executor with the approval of his father and brother C. W. Bryant Jr. and Charles L. Bryant.

**Leaves Half-Million
Estate, But No Will**

CLEVELAND, Ohio (AP)— John W. Carmack, real estate broker who died Nov. 30 without a will, left an estate of \$569,088, according to an inventory filed last week in Probate Court.

Mr. Carmack is survived by his wife, Gloria H. Carmack, 39, and a daughter, Mrs. Regene Carmack Fox, 32 by a previous marriage.

Most of his estate — \$412,400 is in real estate holdings scattered throughout the city. His own home is valued at \$45,000.

He operated the John W. Carmack Real Estate Co. and, in addition to his holdings, was also in the mortgage business.

37 1961

PENNSYLVANIA

Pair Wages Court Battle For \$4 Million Property

Jan. 1-21-61

Claim they P.5 own whole township 37 Pa.

By RALPH MATTHEWS

PHILADELPHIA

Do Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wilson of 140 Pugh Rd. Strafford, Pa. own the whole township of Tredyffrin, which has mushroomed into a development valued at nearly \$4 million over the past 15 years or do they own nothing? Are they millionaires or paupers?

These are two questions that must be decided in the Chester County Court at West Chester on or before Jan. 28, as batteries of lawyers gird for what may be a historic legal battle involving extensive real estate holdings covering more than 300 acres of choice land.

The fight centers around two words — Hammer Hollow.

The Wilsons claim they took title to the property known broadly as Hammer Hollow when they purchased a piece of land on which to build a home from the late James Valentine, an unlettered railroad worker.

Mr. Valentine had purchased the deed many years previously from a man by the name of Harry Taylor, white, who had picked it up at public auction in a delinquent tax sale held by Chester County.



ARE THEY MILLIONAIRES OR PAUPERS? Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wilson of Strafford, Pa., examine maps and deeds to property known as Hammer Hollow in Chester County which they claim they purchased in 1946 and from which they have been ordered evicted. Within the

Because it was barren, just what specific boundaries were these taxes supposed to represent? * * * Wilsons improved only that THE CASE was brought to which suited their immediate fight when Mr. and Mrs. Wil-

bounds of their property the all-white community of Tredyffrin Township has been developed valued at more than \$4 million. The question is, do they own the property by right of purchase or do others own it by "adverse occupancy?"

AMERICAN Saturday after they had received a court order to vacate their ranch type home. * * * The local court handed

needs.

DURING THE past 15 years realty developers slowly encroached on the far-flung property until today there stands the community known as Tredyffrin Township, improved with stores, churches, schools, swimming pools, a convalescent hospital, all located within the boundaries of what was once designated on county maps as Hammer Hollow.

The questions which must now be resolved are: Do the Wilsons own all of the area originally designated as Hammer Hollow before the area was developed?

How and from whom did the firms which developed the township obtain their rights to the area without clearing the encumbrance held by the Wilsons?

Since the Wilsons have been paying taxes to Chester County since 1946 on a tract identified as Hammer Hollow, down a ruling in favor of white neighbors, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Narrigan, who had sued the Wilsons, charging trespassing on the latter's property which has been pending since Jan. of 1959.

The AFRO referred the case to Leon Higginbotham Jr., president of the Philadelphia Branch NAACP, who agreed to examine the records and determine the rights of the couple.

In a statement to the AFRO, Mr. Higginbotham declared, "At this stage of the game I have no idea what we will uncover. I can only say that the law provides the same protection for the weak as it does to the strong."

* * *
THE WILSONS, the lone colored family in the area, are the only ones ordered to vacate their property. None of the white homeowners or business establishments have been challenged.

Widow To Get \$200,000

The Afro American P/2 dat. 10-14-61

Plus Under Walker Will.

MEMPHIS—The widow of Dr. J. E. Walker, prominent Memphis businessman and political leader, will receive more than \$200,000 from his estate in an agreement reached in the controversial will case in Chancery Court here last week.

Mrs. Louise Walker Tarpley was the second wife of Dr. Walker, who was president of Universal Life Insurance Company and Tri-State Bank where he was slain July 28, 1959, by a man who was later committed to a mental hospital. Walker's widow is now married to Charles H. Tarpley, science teacher at Porter Junior High School.

The controversial will case was centered around Dr. Walker's grown children by a previous marriage—A. Maceo Walker, Sr. and Johnetta Walker Kelso—who contested Mrs. Tarpley's suit to get a share of Dr. Walker's estate. The court ruled that Mrs. Tarpley should receive one-third of her deceased husband's estate.

Dat. 10-14-61

IN AN AGREEMENT to be submitted for approval by Chancellor Hoffman last week, Mrs. Tarpley will receive 850 shares of Universal stock with a book value of \$125 per share (it's worth more), for a total of \$106,250; \$30,000 in time deposits and certificates; \$6000 in cash and the Walker home at 1846 S. Parkway E., valued at \$33,000; and other considerations.

Attorneys Wallace Lopez and Robert E. Joyner, who represented Mrs. Tarpley, said the settlement was also for the benefit of her minor child, Leon Eskridge, 6.